

REMARKS

In the first Office Action of April 2, 2008, claims 26-49 were objected to because the phrasing of claim 26 was awkward. It was asserted that claim 26 appeared not to be complete, as written. In response, claim 26 has been amended to recite the invention intended to be claimed.

Claims 26, 29, 31, 34-39, 41, 46 and 47 were rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. published patent application No. 2002/0185025 to Dufour. Claim 40 was rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dufour in view of U.S. patent No. 5,142,979 to Funada. Claims 48 and 49 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dufour in view of U.S. published patent application No. 2002/0005133 to Detmers. Claims 27, 28, 30, 32, 33 and 42-45 were objected to as being dependent on a rejected base claim. They were indicated as being allowable, if rewritten in independent form and overcoming the objection to claim 26.

In response, new claim 50 is being presented. New claim 50 is claim 26 amended to overcome the phrasing objection and to include the language of indicated allowable claim 28. It is believed that new claim 50 is in condition for allowance.

Claim 32 has also been amended to include the language of independent claim 26, amended to overcome the phrasing objection, and to also include the language of intermediate dependent claim 29. It is believed that new independent claim 32 is also in condition for allowance.

As indicated above, claim 26 has been amended to overcome the awkward phrasing which was objected to in the Office Action of April 2, 2008. It is believed that currently amended claim 26 is patentable over the prior art cited and relied on for the following reasons.

The subject invention, as described in the Substitute Specification, as depicted in the drawings, and as is now clearly recited in currently amended claim 26, is directed to a printing press. As seen in Fig. 1, that printing press has at least one forme cylinder 06 or 07 and also

has at least one inking unit 11 or 12 which is selectively positionable between a first inking unit position adjacent the forme cylinder, as seen in Fig. 1; and a second inking unit positioning remote from the forme cylinder, as seen in Fig. 2

The printing press also includes at least one printing forme changing device 26 or 27, as shown in Fig. 2. That at least one printing forme changing device is movable between a first printing forme changing device position remote from the forme cylinder, and a second printing forme changing device position adjacent the forme cylinder.

The subject invention also includes, and amended claim 26 now clearly recites the provision of means coupling the at least one inking unit and the at least one printing forme changing device. A movement of one of the two between its first and second positions results in a movement of the other between its first and second positions. In other words, when the inking unit is moved from its first position, adjacent the forme cylinder, to its second position remote from the forme cylinder, the coupling means results in the movement of the printing forme changing device from its first position, remote from the forme cylinder to its second position, adjacent the forme cylinder.

As may be seen in Figs. 3 and 4, the coupling means can include suitable push rods 28 and 29, suitable pivot joints 31-34 and suitable rollers 36-39. The inking units are positioned in movable elements 08 and 09, while the forme cylinders are positioned in stationary elements 02. In Fig. 3, the inking units and the printing forme changing devices are both in their first positions. The inking units are adjacent the forme cylinders and the printing forme changing devices are remote from the forme cylinders.

As the movable elements 08, 09 are moved to their second positions, in the directions indicated by the arrows x in Fig. 3, the push rods, joints and rollers operate to move the printing forme changing devices 26 and 27, also to their second positions, all as depicted in Fig. 4. Fig. 5 shows the printing forme changing devices 26 now located in their second positions adjacent the forme cylinder.

A second embodiment of the subject invention is depicted in Figs. 7 and 8. In this embodiment, the inking unit 11 and the printing forme changing device are both situated in a common housing. That common housing is shiftable in the axial direction of the forme cylinder which is located in the stationary unit 02. In this embodiment, the means coupling the at least one inking unit and the at least one printing forme changing device is their common housing.

In the Office Action, it was noted, as discussed previously, that claim 26, as originally filed, was incomplete, as written. Claim 26 has now been amended to clearly recite the provision of the means coupling the at least one inking unit and the at least one printing forme changing device. As recited in claim 26, and as discussed above the result of this coupling is that a movement of one of the two devices results in a movement of the other device. Claim 26, as filed, was rejected as being anticipated by U.S. patent application No. 2002/0185025 to Dufour. It is believed that claim 26, as now amended, is neither anticipated by, nor obvious to one of skill in the art over the cited Dufour reference.

In Dufour, there is shown a four print unit web offset lithographic printing press. Each unit includes a forme cylinder or plate cylinder 1 and a blanket or transfer cylinder 2. A first movable frame section 6 carries a plurality of inking units 4. As seen in Fig. 1, the first movable frame section 6 is able to be separated from the central frame section 5 that supports the plate cylinders 1 and the blanket cylinders 2. To this point, the Dufour device is generally similar to the subject invention.

Dufour also discloses plate operation units 9 and 19. These can be laser imaging devices that are usable for writing an image on a plate cylinder 1. They can also be plate changing devices, all as discussed at paragraph 029 of the Dufour reference. These plate operation units 9 and 19 can be moved into their operative positions, adjacent the plate cylinder 1 after the inking units 1, 11 have been moved to their inactive positions. However, the Dufour reference does not disclose or suggest any coupling means between the inking units 4, 14 and

the plate operation units 9, 19. It is thus believed that the Dufour reference does not anticipate or render obvious the printing press as recited in currently cancelled claim 26.

The several secondary references cited and relied on in the Office Action are directed to various features, as recited in the dependent claims of the subject application. They do not teach, or suggest the provision of the means coupling the at least one inking unit and the at least one printing forme changing device, as recited in currently amended claim 26 of the subject application. All of the claims that depend from believed allowable, currently amended claim 26 are also believed to be allowable.

As discussed above, claim 32 has been amended and is now in independent form. It is believed that claim 32, as currently amended, is also patentable. The various claims that depend from believed allowable, currently amended claim 32 are also believed to be allowable.

The prior art cited, but not relied on in the rejections of the claims, has been noted. Since it was not relied on, no discussion thereof is believed to be required.

During a review of the Substitute Specification, in the course of the preparation of the subject Amendment, several minor typographical errors were noted. These are corrected by this Amendment. These minor corrections do not raise any issues of new matter. Their entry is respectfully requested.

The addition of new independent claim 50 and the revision of claim 32 as an independent claim, together with the retention of independent claim 26 brings the total number of independent claims to 3. Since that number of independent claims was paid for at the time of the filing of the application, no additional filing fee is believed to be required. Further, the addition of new claim 50 does not increase the total number of claims because of the concurrent cancellation of claim 28. Again, no additional filing fees are believed to be required. However, if any such fees are required, in connection with the filing of this Amendment, they can be charged to deposit account No. 10-1213 of the undersigned.

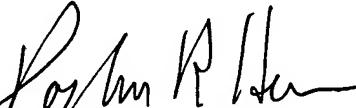
SUMMARY

The Substitute Specification has been corrected, without the introduction of new matter, to correct several minor typographical errors. Indicated allowable dependent claims 28 and 32 have been rewritten in independent form. Independent claim 26 has been amended to overcome the objection raised to it in the Office Action and to more clearly define the subject invention over the prior art cited and relied on. Allowance of the claims, and passage of the application to issue is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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